NAVAL MESSAGE — NAVY DEPARTMENT

CHARTER	EXTENSION NUMBER	ADDRESSEES	PRECEDENCE
FROM: CHIEF MAAG FORMOSA	FOR ACTION	CINCPAC	☐ FLASH ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE ☐ PRIORITY ☐ ROUTINE ☐ DEFERRED
RELEASED BY:	INFORMATION	Bureau of FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS APR 22 1954 5053 Department of State	☐ FLASH ☐ EMERGENCY ☐ OPERATIONAL IMMEDIATE ☐ PRIORITY ☐ ROUTINE ☐ DEFERRED
DATE TYPED: 13 APR 1954			
TOR CRYPTOCENTER: 140015Z			
TYPED BY: TAYLOR			
ROUTED BY: TAYLOR			
CHECKED BY:			

Unless otherwise indicated, this message will be transmitted with deferred Precedence.

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READDRESSED AS CINCPAC 1319252 INFO CNO.

CITE MC 6864 SGD CHAWY.

I AM IN REC OF TOPSEC LTR FROM GEN CHOW CHIEF GEN STAFF MND, TO CINCPAC, VIA CHIEF MAAG FORMOSA, CONCERNING INCREASING THREAT TO OFF-SHORE ISLANDS AND DEF AGAINST THAT THREAT. LTR DTD 6 APR WITH MY INDORSEMENT BEING FWD TO YOU BY COURIER.

HIGH POINTS LTR FOLLOW: GEN CHOW CITES EVIDENCE CHICOM AIR BUILDUP TOWARD SOUTH AND WITHIN TACTICAL RANGE TACHEN; ALSO REORIENTATION CHICOM NAVY TOWARD SOUTH. STATES HIS CONFIDENCE NGRC GROUND DEFENSES CAN STAND UP SURFACE ATTACKS, PROVIDING CHICOM AIR DOES NOT SWING BALANCE. HOWEVER, CONSIDERS LATTER SERIOUS THREAT UNLESS NGRC CAPABILITY SUFFICIENTLY BUILT UP OR SOME OTHER ACTION TAKEN; AND DOUBTS POSSIBLE TO BUILD UP NGRC AIR IN TIME FOR DANGER DEVELOPING DURING NEXT FEW MONTHS WITH ON COMING WEA FAVORING CHICOM ATTACKS.

HE STATES HIS OPINION THAT CHICOM MAY TAKE ANNOUNCED FACT THAT US NOT COMMITTED TO DEF OF OFF-SHORE ISLANDS AS INCENTIVE FOR ATTACKS; AND URGES THAT THE SAME OPEN DIRECT PROTECTION BE EXTENDED TO OFF-SHORE

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE APR 30 1954 FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS BUREAU OF

USN DOWNGRADED FILE

TOP SECRET

80

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1752/80

By NARA Date 11/16/09

ISLANDS AS NOW EXTENDED TO FORMOSA AND PESCADORES. HE STATES OPINION THAT PRESENT US POLICY MAY REFLECT INTENTION AVOID CONTACT IN ORDER

AVERT WAR, BUT THAT SUCH POLICY MAY BE CAUSE LEADING TO WAR. HE FURTHER STATES THAT SHOULD CHICOM AIR CONDUCT DESTRUCTIVE ATTACKS ON TACHEN,

"THEN, FROM THE TACTICAL AIR STANDPOINT, IT IS NATURAL WE WILL LAUNCH RETALIATING ATTACKS ON ENEMY AIR BASES AT HANGCHOW, NINGPO AND EVEN

AS FAR AS SHANGHAI".

MY INDORSEMENT CONCURS THAT EVIDENCE GEN CHOW CITES WOULD

INDICATE BUILD UP AIR AND ORIENTATION CHICOM NAVAL STRENGTH TOWARD SOUTH AND CLOSER OFF-SHORE ISLANDS. I ALSO AGREE DANGER OF ATTACK

WOULD INCREASE DURING COMING MONTHS DUE SUCH BUILD UP AND IMPROVING WEA. CONCUR THAT ANNOUNCED LACK OF US PROTECTION OFF-SHORE ISLANDS MAY BE

INVITATION TO CHICOM ATTACK, AND THAT EXTENDING US PROTECTION TO OFF-SHORE ISLANDS SIMILAR TO THAT NOW AFFORDED FORMOSA AND PESCADORES WOULD

TEND TO DISCOURAGE SUCH ATTACK. I AGREE THAT SUCH PROTECTION SHOULD BE EXTENDED, AND I AGAIN STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT IT BE DONE WITHOUT DELAY.

I HAVE AGAIN STRESSED TO GEN CHOW THAT NO MAINLAND TARGETS BE ATTACKED WITHOUT PRIOR CLEARANCE WITH CINCPAC.

03...COG(1-14)

ADD CIA(77-78)...STATE(79-81) PER 03/20 APR 54/JEM

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Originator CHIEF MAAG FORMOSA 130734Z DTG Page 2 of 2 Pages

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